



Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources

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Volume II

A Winning Track Record

GREETINGS

We hope you enjoy our annual Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources (DNR) Newsletter, which highlights our many accomplishments for calendar year 2016. Something new this year, is a Resource List, which you can use as a navigation tool.

Our mission is to protect and preserve the natural resources of the Navajo Nation, which takes a concerted effort within and outside the Navajo Nation. And we certainly cannot succeed in our mission unless we have support from the Navajo people.

Thank you to all the DNR staff, Office of President and Vice President, Navajo Nation Council, other Nation divisions and enterprises, federal entities and the Navajo people for your assistance and support.

Finally, a thank you to all the Division staff who contributed information to get the annual newsletter written and produced.



From left to right: Joni Tallbull Sr., Environmental Specialist, Ophelia Yazzie, Senior Office Specialist, Madeline Roanhorse, NavajoAML Department Manager, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement Director Joseph Pizarchik, Melvin Yazzie, Sr., Reclamation Specialist, Gilbert Dayzie, Civil Engineer and Elizabeth Clawson with Clawson Construction.

Roanhorse, stated, "It's no wonder that anyone ever got hurt. We are very thankful that no one was injured as a result of this burning coal seam."

NNAMLRP conducted site visits beginning in 2008, which then determined that the coal fire was still alive and was a potential hazard for the local community and the environment. In 2013, they found more residences impacted that originally estimated, which was due to more people moving into the area

for permanent residence.

NNAMLRP Project Manager and Engineer Gilbert Dayzie said, "The major concern was the coal outcrop fire and associated substances. We needed to extinguish and seal the area to ensure that no fatal injuries would occur from falls or entrapments."

Project development activities began in 2014 – Clawson Excavating, Inc., of Wales, Utah was selected to unearth more than 500 linear feet of fire line, ranging

from 20 to 40 feet in depth. A follow-up survey was conducted a year after the project was completed – methane tests confirmed that the fire had not reignited.

In addition to NNAMLRP staff, Clawson Excavating, Inc., Roanhorse noted there were also other partners who contributed to the overall project.

Roanhorse, stated, "I'd like to thank and applaud my field staff for a job well-done and their enthusiasm in keeping our families and communities safe. If it weren't for the support of the local community and the many different partners, we would not have been able to extinguish this fire and refurbish the land."

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), honored winners of the 2016 Excellence in Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) Reclamation Awards. OSMRE Director Joseph Pizarchik recognized state and tribal AML programs and mine operators who have shown innovative and outstanding reclamation of abandoned surface coal and non-coal mines at the 38th Annual National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAML) in Bozeman, Montana.

New Land Use Opportunities

WINDOW ROCK, ARIZONA – The Navajo Nation has new land use opportunities.

Thanks to amendments to the Navajo Nation Land Policy on Acquisition of Land and the Land Acquisition Trust Fund, the Navajo Nation will now be able to negotiate and purchase land more expeditiously.

The purpose of the amendments will allow the Navajo Nation to be more competitive in the real estate industry, negotiate and acquire property on a streamlined basis. The amendments were approved by the Navajo Nation Council in August 2016 and the legislation was signed by President Russell Begaye on August 10, 2016.

The Navajo Nation will now be

able to purchase land for commercial and industrial development. Prior to the amendments, land was primarily purchased for grazing purposes. Moreover, it was a lengthy process that involved approval by the Resources Development Committee (RDC), the Navajo Nation Council, the Office of the President and Vice President.

The amendments gives limited authority to the executive director of the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources to purchase land up to \$5 million in one calendar year, which includes approving the acreage and location for the acquisition or disposition of real property. Any purchases above this

See land, Page 2



Evening sets in on Shiprock Peak from Beclabito, New Mexico.

Home Site Leases Amended

WINDOW ROCK, AZ.
– Improved services to the Navajo people.

That’s one goal of the 2016 Home Site Lease (HSL) Regulation amendments that was approved by the Resources Committee of the Navajo Nation Council in October 2016. It has been more than 20 years since it was last amended.

Navajo Nation Land Department Manager Mike Halona, stated, “I would like to thank the executive and legislative branches for supporting the new changes in the Home Site Lease process. I would also like to commend my staff for the countless hours providing presentations to all the Navajo communities over the years for comments. It was not an easy process, but through dedication and perseverance, we were determined to streamline and improve the home site lease process for the Navajo people.”

Senior Program and Project Specialist Harlan Charley echoed Halona’s comments and said, “There are over 180,000 approved home site leases on the Navajo Nation. Although there may be more requirements and restrictions in the HSL process, we anticipate an increasing demand to obtain a HSL. The median age of the Navajo Nation is approximately 25-years-old and they are eager to live and work on the Navajo Nation. It is hoped we can lure more of our young professional people back to our reservation to assist the Navajo Nation.”

Some of the major changes include increasing a home site lease area up to two acres if an applicant desires, an increase in the application fee, new restrictions, penalties and fine fees and the creation of compliance officers to enforce the new regulations.

The steps to complete a home site lease on the Navajo Nation are:

- * Applicants must complete a HSL application with Tenure: Form 1 – HSL Application; Form 2 - Field Clearance Certification; and Form 3 – Consent.
- * Navajo Fish & Wildlife – Biological Evaluation Compliance Form at the client’s expense.
- * Historic Preservation Department – Archaeological Clearances for HSL – the road

that is going to your proposed HSL (Ingress & Egress) at the client’s expense.

- * Private Land Surveyor – Legal survey for ? acre to one acre parcel for HSL at the client’s expense
- * Environmental Review for environmental compliance

More specifically, some of the new requirements and improvements include:

- * HSL is intended for residential purpose only – No illegal fund raising activities such as gaming (bingo hall), dance hall and illegal drug activities and bootlegging
- * HSL’s 65-year-lease will change to 75-year-lease
- * The 17 Navajo Nation Environmental laws will stay in effect. Environmental laws are enforced by EPA (junk cars, household trash, etc.)
- * No HSL Consents is needed if a new proposed home site lease is adjacent to another approved home site lease
- * Only valid grazing permittees are allowed to consent on a proposed HSL – must have two consecutive years of tally counts
- * Grazing official and land board members must use GPS and record the coordinates on the proposed HSL application – Form 1
- * Home site lease must be fenced in to avoid disputes, animal control, ingress and egress
- * Livestock and corrals are prohibited within the HSL premises
- * No HSL’s within farm plots and land use permits
- * BIA Administration Reserve Areas are governmental use and cannot be used for HSL’s
- * No HSL within Navajo Nation Parks and Recreation areas
- * Absolutely no HSL’s with Area 1 and 2 of the Biological Sensitive Area
- * No HSL will be issued within 750 feet of a major highway or land designated for community development purposes or otherwise in conflict with a local land use plan and/or ordinance (14 NNC§1200)
- * No HSL within Navajo forest or woodland without approval from the Navajo Nation Forestry Department
- * No HSL within half mile of a Navajo Nation government building/area or other government development area
- * HSL annual fees will increase from \$1 a year to \$12

a year

- * To amend your HSL will be \$45 – Example: Assignment, Amendment and Termination
- * HSL Dispute application filing fee will be \$65
- * Must have a valid HSL before transporting a mobile home onto the Navajo Nation and a transportation permit must be obtained from the Navajo Land Department for a fee of \$30 before any mobile home enters Navajo Trust or Fee Land.
- * Illegal parking of trailer/mobile home will be \$200 per month until the tenant comes into compliance
- * Storage shed, corrals, etc. without a lease/permit to improve will be \$200 per month until the tenant comes into compliance.
- * Illegal burial open range locations, penalties and fines of \$500 per incident. Fees will apply annually until illegal burial sites come into compliance.

For more information, please contact your nearest land office or download the HSL Regulation of 2016 and forms from www.dinebikeyah.org. Also, there is a HSL booklet that can be obtained from the Navajo Nation Records & Duplication Department on Highway 264 in Tse Bonito, New Mexico.

Aneth, Utah
(435) 651-3504
Route 162 - Next to the Montezuma Creek Elementary School
Chinle, Arizona
(928) 674-2056
Route 7 - Across from the Chevron gas station, Westside of Chinle Chapter Complex
Crownpoint, New Mexico
(505) 786-2376
Next to the Crownpoint Police Station
Shiprock, New Mexico
(505) 368-1120
US 64 - Old NAPI Building – Across from the east 7-2-11 gas station and convenience store – east of the Foutz Trading Post
Tuba City, Arizona
(928) 282-3194
Tuba City Spur Road - Across from Cavesa Car Wash and next to the old police station
Window Rock, Arizona
(928) 871-6523
Indian Route 12 - Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Building – east of the Navajo Nation Office of President and Vice President’s Office

Beautiful Hogan



A beautiful Hogan braves a new blanket of snow.

Land:

From Page 1

amount would require final approval by RDC and land purchases above \$20 million would require approval by the Naabik’iyati Committee.

The Navajo Nation Land Acquisition Policy Regulations, which were approved by RDC, authorizes the Navajo Land Department with administrative duties such as strategizing and evaluating properties for acquisition or disposition through coordination with appropriate tribal divisions, chapters and enterprises; negotiate the purchase price for the property; conduct preliminary assessment of the property in terms of location, value to the Navajo Nation, title and environmental issues and other related duties.

Navajo Nation Land Department Manager Mike Halona explained, “The Navajo Nation will now be able to purchase land in a timely manner. Prior to the amendments, the Navajo Nation lost out on prime land purchases due to the lengthy land acquisition approval process, which would take years. The legislation is a proactive approach that is based on the needs of the Navajo Nation.”

Halona noted that the Land Acquisition Act is not just for economic development or community development purposes, but for other opportunities the Navajo Nation may want to proceed with after it is evaluated and due diligence is conducted.

Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye stated, “The Navajo Nation missed out on many land purchase opportunities because it was too time consuming. The legislation positions

the Navajo Nation to be on the same level as companies that compete against us in purchasing prime property. We are now in a position to invest in property more expediently.”

“The Navajo Nation missed out on many land purchase opportunities because it was too time consuming.”

Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources (DNR) Executive Director Bidtah Becker, said “DNR is the backbone of community and economic development on the Navajo Nation. With these recent amendments to the Land Acquisition Act, we will continue to work diligently to identify and purchase prime land for the benefit of the Navajo people. Through an integrated approach to land buying with other Navajo divisions and enterprises, I am confident that the Navajo Nation will be able to build a strong economy.”

The Navajo Nation appropriates two percent of its annual tribal revenue into the Navajo Nation Land Acquisition Fund, which is used to purchase new land. Rules and regulations are being developed before the amendments of the Navajo Nation Land Acquisition Act can be fully implemented.

Obtaining Eagle Feathers Made Easier



A peaceful spirit embraces this beautiful golden eagle.



Golden eagles face the rising sun at the Navajo Nation Eagle Sanctuary in Window Rock, Arizona.

WINDOW ROCK, AZ. - No more long distant driving.

Individuals interested in obtaining a ‘live’ eagle feather no longer have to drive to Window Rock, Arizona to fill out an application to receive a feather.

Thanks to recent amendments in the Navajo Nation Eagle Feather Distribution Policy, community members can now mail in their applications to the Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Department is not accepting online or emailed applications, but applicants can download a printable copy of the application from www.navajozoo.org or www.nndfw.org then send it in the mail to the Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife Office, P.O. Box 1480, Window Rock, Arizona 86515.

Moreover, the new policy now allows non-Navajo Native Americans to also apply for a eagle feather, although Navajos will always be given preference when feather supplies are running low. Individuals can obtain up to two eagle feathers per year – this includes two wing or tail feathers and all applicants receive two plumes and two tail feathers. Additionally, applicants will no longer have to pay for a processing fee, which was \$20.

Navajo Nation Zoo Manager David Mikesic, stated, “We decided to amend our policy to make it easier for the Navajo people living outside the Window Rock area. We were also receiving a few requests from other tribal members.”

Although there are 10 eagles in the Navajo Nation Golden Eagle Sanctuary, there is a limited supply of tail feathers that can be distributed. Currently, the Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife is expecting a 6-8 month delay in being able to fulfill applications for tail feathers. And since the eagles normally molt their wing and tail feathers during the summer, there will not be tail feathers available until then.

“Eagles only shed their feathers once a year, which is from late spring until early fall. Although we are out of tail feathers, we have a number of very nice long wing feathers available. Applicants should be able to receive those feathers in less than two weeks.

In addition to filling out an application, the requirements include a Photo Identification Card (Driver’s License) and Certificate of Indian Blood.

Mikesic added, “We don’t accept online applications or email applications. And the downloadable application is suppose to be used for those not living near Window Rock. We still want local folks to apply in person at the Navajo Nation Fish and Wildlife Office.”

The Navajo Nation is one of only a few tribes who has its own Golden Eagle Sanctuary in the country.

For more information about how to obtain an eagle feather, contact the Navajo Nation Zoo at (928) 871-6574 or email Mikesic at dmikesic@navajozoo.org

USDA Awards \$4.8 Million to Assist with Watershed Initiatives

WINDOW ROCK, AZ. – A healthy homeland for the Navajo people.

That’s the goal of a recent \$4.8 million award that was awarded to the Navajo Nation by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Phoenix Region.

USDA Arizona State Conservationist Keisha L. Tatem, stated, “Congratulations to the Navajo Nation. We are looking forward to starting a new watershed planning approach on the Navajo Nation.”

Funds will be used for the Little Colorado River Watershed – Navajo Nation Regional Conservation Partnership Program Project (RCPP), which will align Navajo and federal government, Navajo producer associations, communities and local organizations with the mission of the

Natural Resources Conservation Service. The Navajo Nation RCPP will establish a five-year PL-566 Watershed Planning Team for three sub-watersheds of the Little Colorado River Basin in Arizona.

The partners will address barriers to Navajo participation in Environmental Quality Incentives Program and other USDA programs, conduct bilingual-bicultural outreach and education to emerging producers’ associations and support youth conservation demonstration projects. Moreover, initiatives will address the impacts of water quality and water quantity on the Navajo Nation. Funds will also be used to help build local capacity of land restoration for climate change within the Little Colorado River watershed.

Tatem added, “We hope the partnership will strengthen

relationships among communities, producers and decision-makers and improve resource conditions in the project area, which is approximately 25 percent of the Navajo Nation.”

Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources (DNR) Executive Director Bidtah Becker, noted, “DNR looks forward to working with the Little Colorado River Watershed Chapters Association, BIA and the U.S. Army Corps on this Regional Conservation Partnership Project. Together, we will improve the health of the Nation’s watersheds. I commend the steadfast efforts of all the individuals who assisted in the proposal application. Through partnerships, we can help build a healthy permanent homeland for the Navajo people.”

Managing Our Precious Resource

WINDOW ROCK, AZ. – Creative ingenuity and strategic partners are key to successfully managing one of Navajo’s most precious resource...water.

Accordingly, the Navajo Nation has a department – the Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources that addresses and manages this precious resource.

The purpose of the Department of Water Resources is to provide stewardship, manage, water planning, compile information on existing surface and groundwater resources, coordinate the development and utilization of the Navajo Nation’s waters for existing uses and plan for future adequate water resources for domestic, industrial, agriculture, recreation, and other beneficial uses for maximum benefit and exercise the sovereignty of the Navajo Nation over its waters.

The Department of Water Resources is the largest department within the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources, which consists of the Department Administration, Technical Construction and Operations Branch, Water Management Branch and the Safety of Dams Program.

Water is essential to every community and economic development project throughout the vast 27,000 square-mile reservation that encompasses the Four Corners region of the U.S.

Navajo Nation Water Resources Department Director Ray Benally, stated, “The Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources is a national leader among Indian tribes. The Department strives to look forward beyond today’s issues, to anticipate

ways to advance its mission, adapt to changing opportunities and be at the forefront of water resources development. Although we have limited resources, through the use of technical expertise, effective operations, and the creativity of staff, the Department seeks to manage resources and enhance local economies by implementing the Navajo Nation Water Development Strategy Plan and a Navajo Nation Drought Contingency Plan.”

Severe drought conditions to exist on the Navajo Nation and the future outlook is that it will continue to exist or may worsen.

Benally said, “Funding reductions further adversely impacts the ability of the department to mitigate drought conditions and the effects will become cumulative in the years ahead, which will not be reversed in a short time period.”

The initial Navajo Nation State of Emergency Declarations were declared on June 7, 1996 and March 26, 2002. These initial declarations were reaffirmed in June 2002, August 2004, February 2006, June 2010, June 2011, July 2012, June 2013 and June 2014.

Drought affects all parts of the environment and communities. The many different drought impacts are often grouped as “hydrologic,” “economic,” “environmental,” and “social” impacts. All of these impacts must be considered in planning for and responding to drought conditions.

The Navajo Nation has severe water infrastructure deficiencies that impact the health, economy and welfare of the Navajo people.

Benally explained, “The lack of adequate domestic and municipal water is the greatest water resources

problem facing the Navajo Nation today. Given the limited budgets, the water resources problems will become increasingly acute and will intensify the poor socio-economic conditions on the Navajo Nation.”

To address water resources infrastructure deficiencies and project water requirements, the Navajo Nation Water Development Strategy Plan proposes to construct large regional water supply projects; develop or rehabilitate local water systems to supply domestic and municipal uses; improve services to water haulers; address deficiencies in water storage; mitigate droughts; implement watershed demonstration projects. It is estimated that the total cost of these needs is approximately \$3 billion.

More specifically, the total needs are divided into a 10-year implementation plan. The construction of large regional water supply projects will cost approximately \$84 million per year; develop or rehabilitate local water systems to supply domestic and municipal users \$124.3 million; improve services to water haulers at approximately \$800,000 per year; address deficiencies in water storage at \$4.75 million per year; Respond to and mitigate droughts at \$1 million per year; and spend \$300,000 per year on watershed demonstration projects.

To help expedite the water development strategy, the Navajo Nation Council appropriated \$150 million in April 2016 for water, economic development and agriculture projects.

It was a united effort by the department, executive and legislative branch who collaborated



Department of Water Resources staff work diligently.

to develop a Permanent Fund Income Five-Year Expenditure Plan, which provides funding for water projects over a period of five years.

The funding for the plan was derived from the accrued income or interest earned from the Permanent Trust Fund’s (PTF) principal balance. This marks the first time the Navajo Nation has approved the use of the interest income from the PTF.

Benally added, “The additional funds to address the diverse water needs of the Navajo Nation is greatly appreciated. We

will continue to work with our partners to move forward water development planning and projects for the Navajo communities.”

A key component of the Department of Water Resources is the Technical, Construction and Operations Branch (TCOB), which has a staff of 91 personnel. One of the objectives of TCOB is to promote, sustain livestock and an agricultural economy. There are 17 field offices located at strategic locations throughout the Navajo Nation.

TCOB Branch Director,

See WATER, Page 5

Dedicated Employee Retires After Life-Long Career with Navajo Nation

MONUMENT VALLEY – He was a man of few words, but he had a wealth of wisdom.

That’s how most people remember Lee Cly who retired in June 2016 after working for the Navajo Nation for nearly 40 years.

Cly was a Building Maintenance Supervisor at Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park.

He was an all-around man who started working as a Park Care Taker helping to maintain and clean up the grounds at the park, which had limited amenities when he first began.

And hauling 1,000 gallons of water to the park per day was a common chore, but he didn’t see it that way. It was more a labor of love.

Of all the events that have brought world-wide attention to Monument Valley Navajo Tribal



Lee Cly

Park, Cly said with a grin, “The 2002 Winter Olympics stands out in my mind.”

Thousands of people gathered at Monument Valley Navajo Tribal

Park to see the olympic torch make its way through the park enroute to its final destination in Salt Lake City, Utah. School buses lined up in the valley and scores of people drove from the four sacred mountains and beyond to brave the chilling temperatures...just to catch a glimpse of the olympic torch. Cly and his crew worked behind the scenes to ensure that the event would occur without a hitch...and it did.

Cly explained that it was “exciting” to see so many Navajos at Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park in addition to the media and visitors.

Another memorable note in Cly’s memory was when he had an opportunity to meet Actor Michael J. Fox.

Bottom line, it was meeting new people that he especially enjoyed.

His co-workers described Cly as a very humble man and who was very knowledgeable about traditional Navajo values and Navajo culture.

Navajo Nation Parks and Recreation Department Manager Martin L. Begaye, stated, “I found Lee to be a very dedicated and loyal worker. He helped to preserve and protect his homeland. He wanted to make infrastructure improvements.”

Art Ortega, owner of The View Hotel, praised Cly as a model employee. “Lee went above and beyond to help visitors.”

As a tribute to Cly, the Ortegas established a Lee Cly Trail near The View Hotel so that visitors will learn about his legacy.

“The Lee Cly Trail was developed to show his dedication and the impact he made to help

Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park grow,” stated Ortega.

Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye said in a letter, “You have been a true mentor, friend, a guide to many, and for that, you will be missed dearly. May you retire knowing that you have not only made a remarkable contribution to the Navajo Nation, but that you have also touched the lives of many of your colleagues in immeasurable ways.”

Cly stated, “I really enjoyed my job. Now it’s time to spend time with my family.”

The Navajo Nation Parks and Recreation Department presented him with a saddle. So it looks like the 63-year-young cowboy now will have plenty of time to ride his horse.

He did say, “I’ll be back.”

To visit that is.

Investing in Our Future

WINDOW ROCK, AZ. – A big investment.

The Navajo Nation is investing in its land base to protect and preserve its resources for future generations.

The Sihasin Fund Pasture, Range and Forage Expenditure Plan pursuant to CD-68-14 and 12 N.N.C. 2501-2508 was passed and signed by the Speaker Lorenzo Bates on November 3, 2016 and then signed by President Begaye on November 14, 2016.

This resolution enables the Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture to establish an Agriculture Infrastructure Fund that will be used for range, grazing and livestock, tribal ranches infrastructure, farming and irrigation, agriculture water development, dams, reservoirs and catchments, watershed planning for agriculture, agriculture complexes, a drought contingency plan (mitigation measures), area-wide fencing, a brand office, Navajo Partitioned Lands and former Bennet Freeze Area projects including administration costs and other related projects.

Navajo Nation Department Director Leo Watchman, Jr., stated, “We are pleased the Navajo leadership has blessed us with approval to continue our efforts to launch this much-needed source of funding for the Navajo people. We have had a long-standing goal to establish an agriculture fund. It is our desire to enhance and improve the health of our precious resources through sustainable management practices.”

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Risk Management Insurance Program provides farmers and ranchers indemnity funds when there is a deviation from the average amount of precipitation. It was not until recently that the Navajo Nation became eligible to participate in the crop subsidy and drought fund program under USDA.

The passage of the new plan authorizes the Navajo Nation to apply to the United States Department



Student interns gain hands-on experience in the field.

of Agriculture to participate in the Pasture Range and Forage Insurance Program. The Sihasin Reserve fund (\$19,835,612) guarantees annual Crop Year insurance premiums for 6,984,343.10 acres premium and only draw-down from the Sihasin Fund if the PRF Insurance Program indemnity is insufficient to cover the insurance premium. The plan also approves the use of indemnity payments in excess of the amount necessary to guarantee the subsequent Crop Year’s insurance premiums to fund agriculture infrastructure projects.

Watchman added, “My staff worked diligently to research this plan. With limited funds within the Navajo Nation government, we must continue to seek innovative sources of funding to improve our natural resources and provide more efficient services to the Navajo communities. Once the Agriculture Fund is in operation, we anticipate the fund to be self-sustaining.”

Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources Executive Director Bidtah Becker, stated, “I applaud the Department of Agriculture staff who worked persistently to receive approval for the agriculture rangeland insurance funding. These funds will enhance the Navajo Nation’s effort to invest in agriculture-related projects, which will help to build a sustainable agricultural economy. We strongly support our Navajo people who have a close connection with the land and livestock.”

Navajo Nation Council Delegate Tom Chee, noted, “For too long, we’ve neglected our land base. This is one of the biggest investments we can make. Our investment has to go back to protecting our land...this is how we protect ourselves...we have to have insurance. When we don’t get rain, we should be compensated for it. If we’re afraid of venturing out to do something, we will never be able to accomplish anything.”

Navajo Nation Receives Award to Address Abandoned Uranium Mine Projects

WINDOW ROCK, AZ. – The Navajo Nation has more money to provide assistance in the abandoned uranium mine assessment efforts.

Thanks to a recent grant from the United State Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), site assessments will begin at abandoned uranium mines (AUM) on the Navajo Nation.

Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye, stated, “The Navajo Nation definitely needs the \$328,849 the USEPA recently awarded to the Nation to address contaminated abandoned uranium mines on our reservation. Uranium contamination is a major problem on our lands and it affects not only our people, but our future generations. I want to commend the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources staff for their steadfast efforts and dedication to work with various partners to help preserve and protect our natural resources.”

Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources Executive Director Bidtah Becker echoed President Begaye’s comments, and noted, “This grant would not have been possible if it weren’t for the hardworking staff at the Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) Reclamation Program. Our priority is to ensure that the Navajo people’s natural resources are protected for future generations.”

Navajo Madeline Roanhorse, Department Manager for Navajo Nation Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program Department Manager Madeline Roanhorse stated that she is very pleased to announce the award and acceptance of a USEPA grant.

“We will work diligently with the USEPA Region 9 Tribal Lands Clean Up Section to assist and coordinate with all aspects of the grant contract for the field and technical assistance in the Navajo Abandoned Uranium Mines (AUM) initiatives,” Roanhorse commented. “With the help from other tribal, federal, non-governmental, and contractual partners, USEPA Region 9 believes that Navajo AML is the natural partner given their technical expertise, their familiarity with AUMs terrain and location, public relations experience and their standing as an expert reclamation agency within the Navajo Government System.”

The USEPA Grant awarded to Navajo AML is for a duration of 14 months - subsequent funding may become available in future years.

Navajo AML will assist USEPA Region 9 with understanding all phases of reclamation at the mine sites, providing logistical support, technical support, and engineering expertise.

Roanhorse added, “Navajo AML is looking forward to the implementation of this new partnership and the positive impacts it will bring to the Navajo people in regards to the health and environmental issues with uranium mines across the Navajo Nation.”

Water:

From Page 4

Najam H. Tariq, stated “We provide direct services to the Navajo people at chapter level by repairing, rehabilitating, installing and constructing infrastructures like livestock water wells, windmills, waterlines, storage tanks, submersible pumps, booster pumps, pump houses, earthen dams, irrigation canals, diversions, gates, under its jurisdiction. The program provides in-house technical and construction support to all projects undertaken by the TCOB.”

One of the crucial tasks undertaken by the TCOB was to develop a planning document for rehabilitation of the San Juan Irrigation Rehabilitation Projects (SJIRP), which includes the Fruitland-Cambridge Irrigation Project and the Hogback Irrigation Project. The document was initiated to help provide guidance to rehabilitate the infrastructure, plan for future funding allocations and complete compliance requirements. In 2011, Congress authorized the Secretary of Interior to rehabilitate the Fruitland-Cambridge

Irrigation Project by 2016 and the rehabilitation of the Hogback-Cudei Irrigation Project by 2019. The San Juan Irrigation Project covers an area of approximately 13,680 acres which will ultimately serve approximately 1,500 Navajo farmers who depend on irrigation water from Fruitland, Hogback and Gadii’ahi’ canals to irrigate their small plots in six Navajo chapters, which includes Fruitland, Nenahnezad, San Juan, Tse ‘Daa’ Kaan, Shiprock and Gadii’ahi’.

TCOB also completed rehabilitation/construction of

Many Farms Irrigation Flume and purchased an Arch Culvert to increase flow of water to Many Farms Lake to provide adequate water to local farmers to enhance agricultural activities. Installation of Arch Culvert is in progress. These projects involve DWR, BOR, BIA and the local Many Farms Chapter

During Fiscal Year 2016, TCOB drilled 3 new water wells, constructed and installed 20 storage tanks, constructed 6.4 miles of waterlines, completed rehabilitation of 23 livestock

earthen dams, inspected and performed 2,537 repair jobs on windmills, performed inspections and completed 787 repair jobs on irrigation water systems, performed 555 repair jobs on heavy equipment used for livestock and irrigation water facilities. Also, under Safe Drinking Water Hauling Feasibility Study and Pilot Project, TCOB served 4,870 Navajos with safe drinking water at chapter level.

For more information, the DWR can be contacted at (928) 729-4003.

An Integrated Approach

WINDOW ROCK, AZ. – Team Navajo.

Those are the words of Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources (DNR) Executive Director Biddah Becker.

It's become a common phrase within DNR.

"We have to work together as a team," states Becker. "This involves an integrated approach to virtually everything we do. We are Team Navajo."

To work towards this goal, DNR departments amended their plans of operation in the year 2016 and two new departments were established: the Heritage and Historic Preservation Department (Formally Historic Preservation and Archaeology) and the General Land Development Department.

Becker noted, "Combining historic preservation and archaeology expedites services to the public and takes the department in a growing direction of heritage preservation."

According to Acting Department Manager Linda Laughing, more economic development opportunities will now be available for archaeologists in the private sector.

Laughing said, "We will no longer compete with archaeologists. However, our in-house archaeologists will continue to work on large-scale projects while private sector archaeologists will provide archaeology work for home site leases and other smaller projects."

The General Land Development Department was established in concert with DNR's integrated approach. Rather than having different DNR departments process individual land-related documents, GLDD was established to provide a one-stop shop that will improve overall efficiency in areas of leasing, permitting and rights-of-way.

The purpose of the General Land Development Department (GLDD) is to administratively process applications for land withdrawals, non-mineral leases, permits and rights-

of-way on and across Navajo Nation lands including any amendments, subleases or assignments.

Becker explained, "I wanted to create a new department that would specifically process land withdrawals, leases and related issues to expedite

"We want to be customer and business-friendly. We do not want to lose out on business opportunities because of tribal bureaucracy."

the approval process. We want to be customer and business-friendly. We do not want to lose out on business opportunities because of tribal bureaucracy."

GLDD Director Elerina Yazzie, stated, "As a new face, there have been many challenges that I have encountered in terms of transitioning in general. For years, the general notion is that when you submit project packages to the Navajo Nation it may take years to process. The new department has opted to switch to an electronic processing of project packages through the Navajo Nation System that was developed by the Land Department and is owned by the Navajo Nation."

This system not only streamlines the project review process, it also creates accountability and transparency.

Yazzie explained, "Its capabilities are infinite in that we are able to write and develop the system to cater to our needs in terms of processing applications for leases, permits and rights-of-way. A majority of the GLDD team members are relatively new faces as well and we are excited to move forward as a team especially operating and functioning in a digital age"

She describes the transformation as exhilarating.

Yazzie added, "The GLDD is rapidly working toward exerting the Navajo Nation's authority to issue our own leases without the Bureau of Indian Affairs' approval, which is outlined under the General Leasing Regulations of 2013. However, the home site lease function will remain with the Navajo Land Department, but will be transitioning into GLDD, hopefully within the next few years."

The major difference between the GLDD and Navajo Land Department is that GLDD handles the processing and administering of leases, permits and rights-of-way while the Navajo Land Department houses the title records for the Navajo Nation, retains the GIS functions, home site, cadastral, land acquisition, regulatory authority and enforcement.

Moreover, the Navajo Land Department created a new component called the Navajo Nation System (see related story). This is another facet of the integrated approach using information technology to instantaneously monitor and approve documents in the tribal SAS approval system.

For example, many projects require pre-land development approval such as a Biological Resource Land-Use Clearance, a Cultural Properties Clearance, and other environmental reviews. With this integrated approach, DNR staff and approvers from other Navajo Nation divisions or departments will be able to review and approve documents simultaneously.

Becker added, "The Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources is the backbone of the Navajo Nation government. It is also the first point of contact and approval for all community and some economic development projects on the Navajo Nation so it is very critical that staff within DNR work together as a team to improve service delivery for the Navajo people and the public. I believe we have made tremendous strides within DNR. I commend the DNR staff for their continued dedication and commitment to serve the Navajo Nation."

Reflections



Congratulations!

WINDOW ROCK, AZ. – Kudos for a job well done.

Congratulations are in order to two Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources staff.

Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife Department Director Gloria Tom is the 2016 Natural Resources Professional of the Year and Principal Extension Agent Charmaine Tso who works in the Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture received a plaque from the Northern

Navajo Agency Grazing Committee.

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission selected Tom for outstanding leadership and dedication to Arizona's wildlife, accomplishments and ongoing efforts in working with the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Tso was awarded for outstanding dedication and service during an annual meeting with Navajo Nation grazing officials in December.

Safety....A Labor of Love

WINDOW ROCK, AZ –

Ensuring the safety of the public.

That is the number one priority of Navajo rangers, which is a never-ending labor of love.

It is also a responsibility that the Department of Resource Enforcement does not take lightly.

Navajo Nation Department of Resource Enforcement Department Director Leonard Butler, stated, “We assist entities and Navajo communities with a variety of events throughout the year. Although we have a small staff, we assist with planning, coordination, emergency response, search and rescue, investigations and security.”

And due to high standards and strict eligibility requirements to provide enforcement regulations on the Navajo Nation, Butler said it makes the Department’s job even more difficult to hire a lot of rangers. Some of the criteria to become a certified Enforcement Officer or Ranger include: Must be physically fit - One requirement is the competition of a Basic Police Academy, which requires a time one and a half mile run, physical agility test, flexibility test and a weight lifting test; Must successfully pass a background check; Must complete an annual physical or medical examination; Must be able to follow orders and work in potentially dangerous, stressful and



Navajo Ranger Lorenzo Lapahe and his beautiful quarter horse at Navajo Mountain.

strenuous work environment, to name but a few.

Being a ranger can be dangerous especially if there is only

one enforcement officer out in the field in a rural area. Moreover, there may be times when they are outside of a cell phone tower coverage area.

Although there are some similarities in duties and responsibilities between a police officer and ranger, a Navajo Ranger’s duties greatly differ from that of police work. A ranger’s primary responsibility is the protection and preservation of the Navajo Nation’s natural resources through the enforcement of Navajo Nation laws and by educating the general public concerning natural resources. A police officer’s primary duty is to maintain public safety through the enforcement of criminal and traffic laws.

Depending on the location, rangers use vehicles, three-wheel outdoor terrain vehicles or horses. In fact, back in the day, horses were more commonly-used to get through the back country.

Case in point, Rangers Lorenzo Lapahe and Dorosita Begay saddled up their own horses and blazed the rugged terrain between Navajo Mountain Chapter and Rainbow Bridge during a first-ever marathon – It was part of the Navajo Parks and Race Series held in November.

Sergeant Stanley Milford explained, “It was a meticulous operation because it involved a lot of rough back country, which made

it virtually impossible to travel on with a vehicle. Due to the total distance of 52 miles, we had to rely on horses to follow the runners. There were even spots where the rangers had to get off their horses and lead them due to the narrow and steep route.”

Milford said oftentimes the rangers have to get to these locations in the early morning dawn to ensure the trail is safe for the runners as was the case at the marathons from Navajo Mountain to Rainbow Bridge in November and the four-day marathon at Four Corners Monument in December.

It also makes it especially challenging not only for the participants, but the rangers when an event of this nature is held during the winter season.

Butler noted, “We have to work with a variety of individuals and entities to ensure that we prepare for any unexpected circumstances, which is why safety is our number one priority.”

Organizers and rangers partnered with the National Park Service and Classic Aviation (a helicopter rescue operator) during the Navajo Mountain/Rainbow Bridge Marathon as a precautionary measure. Organizers were pleased that no one was severely injured and a helicopter did not have to be used.

Keeping it Green

WINDOW ROCK, AZ. –

It’s all about green. And green is how the Navajo Nation wants its forest land to be, which takes a concerted effort.

The Navajo Forestry Department works year-round with various governmental entities to keep Navajo forest land abundant and sustainable for the benefit of the Navajo people. The Navajo Forestry Department was established in 1971 by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. Its function is to enforce forest woodland regulations, provide wildland fire protection, provide wood permits and educate the public about its department. It includes six programs: Forest Services, Research and Development, Geographical Information System, Reforestation, Cooperative Services and Timber Management.

Preserving, protecting and managing nearly 600,000 acres of commercial forest and approximately five million acres of woodlands

is not an easy task.

One of the Department’s most critical issues is to complete a forest inventory analysis, which is necessary for the development of a Navajo Forest Management Plan - This is part of the Navajo Nation Forestlands Integrated Resource Management Plan.

Navajo Forestry Department Director Alexious Becenti explained the analysis will provide information about the growth and mortality rate of the forest, species composition and data that will help the Department look at trends.

The Navajo Nation Forestlands Integrated Resource Management Plan will determine how different resources within the forestland will be managed.

Becenti stated, “Input will be sought from all interested parties to determine the management actions within the identified areas. We will also seek input from chapters and the public to assist in the development



Navajo forestry staff take a moment to smile.

of this document.”

The Department continues to work with various entities to refurbish the Asaayi Lake fire area. Once all environmental surveys and clearances are done, the Department will complete the removal of burnt trees for firewood or poles, reforestation and salvage timber harvesting. In

Fiscal Year 2016, about 10 acres reforestation area was completed.

To improve and protect the forest from catastrophic wildland fire, the Department also implements forest thinning. About 157 acres has been identified for forest thinning, which is conducted to help improve the health of Navajo forest land.

As in other proposed projects, the Department works with other programs and entities to obtain the proper environmental surveys and clearances before any activities can begin.

“We are working with the Navajo Fish and Wildlife Department, Natural Heritage Program and Historic Preservation to begin determining the biological and cultural survey needs for the proposed selected thinning areas.”

The Department also consists of an enforcement component. Enforcement officers conduct investigations on possible forest trespass violations to patrolling the woodland areas. One such violation includes selling firewood without a permit.

Speaking of green, the Department has two green houses and a botanical garden that houses an array of indigenous plants and herbs. Staff provide tours for school groups, chapters and

visitors.

The Department has collaborated with a host of entities throughout the years to harvest trees such as for the U.S Department of Forestry. In fact, the Department recently sold tree seedlings to the Santa Clara Pueblo for their reforestation efforts.

Navajo forest land also offer economic development opportunities. One such example includes a future wood pellet operation on the Navajo Nation using Navajo trees.

“I want to commend the staff for their devotion to help keep our forest healthy and green. It’s also a team effort that involves many different entities. We are doing what we can to help preserve our beautiful forest for the enjoyment and benefit of the Navajo people,” Becenti added.

For more information about Department projects and other initiatives, contact the Department at (928) 729-4007.

Navajo Nation Sponsors Historic Quad Keyah Marathon

FOUR CORNERS MONUMENT – A monumental ultra achievement.

Spiritual...Beautiful... Unforgettable....A double whammy times two.

That's how runners described how they felt in the first-ever four-day back-to-back marathon at Four Corners Monument, which was held on December 8-11th.

More than 45 runners from throughout world braved crisp temperatures at the Four Corners Quad Keyah Marathon...the Grand Daddy of All Marathons, which was part of the 2016 Navajo Nation Parks and Race Series.

It was a first for the Navajo Nation and a first for all of the runners who participated in either a half or full marathon.

Running is definitely a way of life for many of the individuals who traveled from within the four sacred mountains and beyond just to be part of Navajo history.

World-class runners huddled at Four Corners Monument each morning at 7 a.m. or 9 a.m. then began their historic rustic trail marathon. On December 8th, runners ran in the State of Arizona, Utah on December 9th, Colorado on December 10th and completed their final run in the State of New Mexico on December 11th.

Suprisingly, a handful of the elite runners were more than a half century old. In fact, many of these avid running enthusiasts were record holders.

Take for example, Henry Rueden of Wisconsin who holds the national record for the most marathons ran in a life time at 1,800 and more. He can now add four more marathons to top his life-long list of accolades. Reuden is in his 60's and stood out from the rest of the crowd because he usually ran without a shirt while most runners were bundled up in layers of clothing, hat and gloves.

"I'm from Wisconsin, so this is perfect weather for running," he shouted. "It's been a real wonderful experience running here at Four Corners. The Navajo people have been incredibly warm and have treated us very well."

If he wore a red and white hat, people would've guessed he was from the North Pole.

Dave Jones of Kentucky is working his way up to achieve a world record – he wants to run seven marathons in seven continents in seven days in January 2017.

"This was a treat to be savored," Jones remarked with a smile. "I really enjoyed running here at Four Corners Monument, but it was more about the experience, the blend of nostalgia and the thrill of meeting and talking with the runners. This is going to help me prepare for the seven-day marathon. I wouldn't have traded this beautiful home place and experience for anything. This is what you call outdoor happiness."

Amanda Rosenberg of Shiprock, New Mexico and Brad Kautz of Dulce, New Mexico were the overall winners. Rosenberg and Kautz each received four prestigious medals signifying their completion in all four states as well as all of the participants who finished.

Rosenberg and a couple of other runners had an opportunity to speak to students at Teecnospos Boarding School after they completed their run in the State of Arizona on December 8th. Rosenberg who currently lives and works in Phoenix said she enjoys running especially on the Navajo Nation.

Rosenberg stated that the Navajo Nation is a haven of beauty and she strongly encouraged the children at Teecnospos to start running and to keep running. She began running short distances and challenged herself to run the 50-mile marathon from Navajo Mountain to Rainbow Bridge in November. She topped that goal by entering and completing four back-to-back marathons on December 8-11th. In fact, she even out ran everyone, including all the male runners on the first two days of the four-day marathon. On the first day, she ran a fast pace of three hours and 56 seconds and beat Dulce, New Mexico Native Brad Kautz by two seconds. She was also the overall female winner.

Los Angeles Native



These four runners made history after completing a first ever four-day back-to-back marathon.

Maggin Brugal, chuckled, "I only ran the half marathon so I am only half-crazy. I don't know what I was thinking when I decided to run here. Just trying to balance myself over the rocks was tough so I didn't want to run too fast. It's also difficult to run when there are unknown elements."

It wasn't exactly a breeze for everyone. Some runners ran into obstacles whether that be mentally or physically.

Stanford Lake who lives in Prescott, Arizona, but is originally from Kayenta, Arizona, stated, "It was a tough challenge to complete. I am glad I challenged myself to do the race series and completed it. Believe me, the mental challenge just to prepare each morning after the first marathon was the first obstacle. My body was completely destroyed after the second marathon and I still had two marathons left."

Lake reminisces, and said his third obstacle was facing wind chills and frigid cold temperatures especially on the very first day.

"Even my thermal clothing was not enough," Lake explained. "It was not working especially on the high mesas. My final obstacle was overcoming my injuries and muscle cramps."

He suffered a sprained ankle in the third marathon after mile four, but managed to forge ahead.

Lake continued, "To overcome these obstacles, I visualized the end goal. My end goal was holding four medals in four different

states on Dine' Bekayah."

Kenneth Stebler of Las Cruces, New Mexico, commented, "My overall experience was a combination of physical, emotional and spiritual. It was an incredible test of one's physical ability. It involved difficult trail running and even a bit of climbing up and down and over rocks and boulders. It was one that required attention to every step and required great focus to prevent slipping or falling. The cold was extraordinary on day one. The difficulty of the course was extreme on day three. The event was mentally taxing and required summoning of physical reserve."

Stebler said when he first entered the Shiprock Marathon earlier in the year, he made some new Navajo friends who told him about the Navajo ritual of running before the sun comes up.

"My wife and I learned of the practice of greeting the Creator at sunrise. My family and I now try to run before the sun rises so that we can acknowledge the gifts of the Creator," Stebler noted. "Participating in a four-day marathon at Four Corners was truly spiritual. It was not an event for overall trophies and age group awards. This was a private event with our own purpose...competing with ourselves and not others."

Most runners who were off the Navajo Nation were not use to the rigors of rustic trail running, but nevertheless cherished their

historic moments.

Navajoyes.org CEO Tom Rigggenbach explained, "I thought it was very successful. There were a variety of great world-class runners locally and from around the world. The courses were fun, the weather was a little cool, but was great along with the wonderful entertainment. Overall, it was a very successful event. I didn't think we would have as many runners as we did."

Five Navajo runners completed the four-day half and full marathons, which include Amanda Rosenberg of Phoenix, Stanford Lake of Prescott, Arizona, Roger Stash of Red Mesa, Utah, Marianna Kahn of Lukachukai, Arizona and Sharon Begay of Sanostee, New Mexico.

Rigggenbach has been instrumental in working behind the scenes to help plan and coordinate a series of running events at the Navajo tribal parks. The Four Corners Quad Keyah Marathon was the Grand Daddy of all the marathons.

To have an historic event at Four Corners was a natural.

"Four Corners has always had an appeal," Rigggenbach commented. "It's such an intriguing place with four states in one location."

Of course the unparalleled event just wouldn't be complete unless it included a Navajo Code Talker. All of the runners humbly shook Navajo Code Talker John Kinsel, Sr.'s hand at the completion of their run. And if they were lucky, maybe they learned a little bit about the Navajo Code Talkers.

Laurence Macon of San Antonio, Texas, stated, "This has been the most enjoyable and incredible experience in my life. The scenery is just wonderful, but the real beauty comes from the Navajo people. They have treated us very well. This event was more about the experience more than anything."

Macon may have been the one of the last runners to complete the four-day mega marathon, but why rush....after all, he is only 60 years young. It seems like he spent more time talking and laughing throughout the entire event than watching the time clock. He just took

it one step at a time and enjoyed the moment so to speak.

Navajo Nation Parks and Recreation Department Director Martin L. Begaye, stated, "I am very pleased we had a very successful series of running events at our Navajo Tribal parks. I want to commend the staff at all of our parks, the Office of President and Vice President, Tom Rigggenbach, other entities, sponsors, runners, volunteers and the communities for supporting these unique outdoor recreation events. These events took years of planning and we are finally beginning to see them come into fruition."

The Navajo Nation attracts many visitors at its tribal parks during the prime tourism season from May through August. Most Navajoland visitors come from the four corner states and California while international visitors come primarily from Germany, France and Canada. Additionally, many visitors come to visit the Navajo Nation to see the scenery. Interestingly, many travelers often return for a second visit. Hence, the Navajo Nation Parks and Recreation Department began creating new venues for tourists and the Navajo people to visit the tribal parks during the off-season.

Begaye added, "It is hoped we will be able to continue offering year-round outdoor recreation events and make the Navajo Nation a primary tourism destination for visitors. We also want the Navajo people to explore their own backyard and enjoy our beautiful parks. We are grateful that visitors enjoy our scenery, but we also want them to experience our culture and the new outdoor recreation events that we have added."

So in the end, some participants ran faster than the grinch stole Christmas while others were slow as molasses, but one thing is for sure....they were smiling from beginning to end...the smiles said it all...beyond words.

In a traditional Navajo sense, they were in harmony because they ran four directions, four states, in four days....they came full circle.

Empowering Ourselves Through Mother Nature

WINDOW ROCK, AZ. – A rare opportunity.

That's what's in store for people who want to experience something new at Beautiful Navajo.

Outdoor recreation enthusiasts will be pleased to know a series of new hiking and running trails are being established throughout the 27,000 square-miles of the Navajo Nation.

In fact, the newest trail is located in the capital of the Navajo Nation called the Navajo Museum Trail. The one and half mile trail begins at the Navajo Nation Museum and ends at Window Rock Veteran's Memorial Park.

Navajo Nation Museum Director Manuelito Wheeler, stated, "We have a very unique trail that bridges our museum with a Navajo tribal park. The trail serves as a link to what we have to offer at our facility and a gateway to explore the outdoors here in the capital of the Navajo Nation. I want to thank the Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President (NNOPVP) for providing funds to help us construct the Navajo Museum Trail. We hope to serve as



It was a successful team effort to create a new walking trail.

an example of what Navajo communities can do to build a foundation for healthy living."

The brainchild of the Navajo Nation Trail initiative derived from the Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President who awarded \$50,000 to launch the trail project in 10 communities. The communities that received funding include: Shiprock, Black Mesa, Shonto, Cove, Navajo Mountain, Chinle, Dilkon and Kayenta, Four

Corners Monument and Little Colorado River Navajo Tribal Park.

Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye stated, "Let's embrace Mother Earth and all its beauty here on the Navajo Nation. We have some of the most beautiful places in the world. Enjoy what God has blessed us with here within the four sacred mountains. There's nothing more wonderful than enjoying the outdoors with your family. We are encouraging our people to live a healthy lifestyle. If you take care of your bodies, you will live a long life."

Navajo Nation Vice President Jonathan Nez agreed, and said, "President Begaye and I are both strong advocates of healthy living. These trails will provide a rare opportunity for what most people can't normally see."

Nez explained not only will the trails provide a new avenue for outdoor recreationists, but serve as a new opportunity to promote tourism on the Navajo Nation.

Nez said, "The Navajo Museum Trail provides a new route to walk and run. It provides a new template for other communities to duplicate. The Navajo Museum Trail was

completed in a short amount of time with minimal funding and plenty of volunteerism. We must return to servitude and volunteerism to empower our Navajo communities with projects of this magnitude. President Begaye and I are committed to help our people live healthier lives. We need to give our people tools to empower themselves. Walking and running helps you spiritually, mentally and physically. Studies show that exercising helps you reduce stress. The family that exercises together stays together."

Navajo Nation Parks and Recreation Director Martin L. Begaye, commented, "It was a banner 2016 year for our tribal parks. Thank you to the many individuals, partners and entities for helping us to begin building a new foundation for healthy living. We were very pleased to see the great enthusiasm not only among the Navajo people, but among the travelers who came as far away as Europe and other countries just to be able to run in our beautiful Navajo tribal parks. We look forward to even greater opportunities to empower our people and make our tribal parks more enjoyable for our visitors."

A Grand Welcome

WINDOW ROCK, AZ. – A grand welcome.

That's what awaits you at the Navajo Nation Zoo...a giant kaleidoscope of engineering precision, but more importantly, majestic new birds and animals that want to connect with you.

Thanks to many great partners, the Navajo Nation Zoo has new curb appeal, an array of new facilities for visitors and expanded structures for its species.

Since the Navajo Nation Zoo was first established in 1977 at its current location in Tse Bonito Park in Window Rock, visitors would have to plow through muddy terrain to visit the nation's only tribally-owned zoo. In fact, some individuals did not want to venture onto muddy road conditions and would turn around. However, that is no longer a hindrance.

It was like a world of humanity when the Apache County District II provided funding to provide the Navajo Nation Zoo with a new access road in July 2016 then the Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President (OPVP) provided funds to pave the parking lot for the Zoo in September 2016. The parking lot now enables more travelers and especially school buses to park more efficiently and safely. The OPVP worked collaboratively with the

Navajo Nation Division of Transportation (NDOT) who provided the expertise and man-power to prepare the parking lot for its asphalt transformation.

Navajo Nation Zoo Manager David Mikesic stated, "We are very grateful to Apache County, the NNOPVP and NDOT for their efforts to improve our entry road and provide a safe area to park. Over the years, we have been working diligently with various partners to enhance the Navajo Nation Zoo. We want to ensure our guests that we are working hard to provide a safe environment for everyone. It is hoped that this in turn will provide a more enjoyable experience at the Navajo Nation Zoo."

Mikesic stated that visitation has been increasing over the years, which he attributes to word of mouth advertising and improvements made at the zoo. Moreover, Mikesic said animals are an integral part of traditional Navajo culture, which is why the Navajo Nation Zoo helps serve as a link to traditional Navajo history and traditional Navajo teachings.

The Navajo Nation Zoo is home to more than 100 animals, 50 different species and also the only American Indian zoo in the U.S. The Navajo Nation Zoo is a haven



Children take time to say hello from the Navajo Nation Zoo.

and permanent home for many of its birds and animals, which were injured or orphaned on the Navajo Nation.

In the year 2016, the Navajo Nation Zoo acquired a Black-Footed Ferret, an injured elk and a male deer. The Black Footed Ferret is one of the most endangered mammals in the world.

Although all the animals and species are important, there is a mystical spirit about bald eagles who can easily take center stage.

Mikesic noted, "Most tribes including the Navajo Nation, have a special relationship and utmost respect for eagles. We sometimes invite traditional Navajo practitioners or traditional Navajo storytellers who talk about the importance and

significance of eagles and the role that animals have in Navajo culture."

In the early years, the Navajo Nation Zoo only had four eagles. Today, there are 10 eagles. In 2016, five new eagles arrived mostly from Utah, which were acquired from a rehabilitation center after they were deemed non-releasable because of injuries.

To accommodate these breath-taking eagles, a new and all-inclusive eagle sanctuary was constructed and completed in 2016. The total cost of the 4,000 square-foot eagle home was \$800,000. The Navajo Nation Zoo received a grant for approximately \$200,000 from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which was used for design and initial

construction. Additional funding was also provided by the Navajo Tourism Department and funds from the Navajo Nation Unreserve Undesignated Fund Balance. In-house project sponsorships were also provided by the Navajo Nation Parks and Recreation Department, the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority Frontier Communications, and others. The eagle sanctuary will be able to accommodate up to 20 eagles.

The new eagle aviary is also a source for 'live' eagle feathers that can be given back to the Navajo people who request for an eagle feather for ceremonial purposes. The feathers are gathered then given to the Navajo Nation Fish and Wildlife Department who have an Eagle Feather Distribution Program. For more information about this program contact them at (928) 871-6450 or via their website at www.nndfw.org

Adding to its accolades in 2016, a new outdoor facility was constructed and completed that is used for educational presentations and entertainment. This 40-foot octagon ramada cost \$100,000 and was made possible by the Navajo Tourism Department along with Zoo funding and staff efforts.

Many of the birds and animals can also be adopted. They cannot be taken home, but individuals can sponsor them for a year to help offset the cost of their daily care. For \$150, a person's name becomes associated with an animal for one year and they receive a framed photo of their animal, a certificate, a letter of thanks and a receipt for the transaction.

Mikesic commented, "If you are the first person to adopt a new animal, you have the naming rights to provide the animal with its permanent Zoo name."

"The Navajo Nation Zoo has limited funding; therefore, we are always looking for new partners to help us maintain and improve our services for the people. The Navajo Nation Zoo is truly an asset of the Navajo Nation and we are doing everything we can to preserve, protect and promote it. Whether you're a local or from afar, a visit to the Navajo Nation is not complete unless it includes the Navajo Nation Zoo. So if you want to experience the glories of nature, mark your calendar to visit this off the beaten path sanctuary for your soul.

For more information about the Navajo Nation Zoo, contact them at (928) 871-6574 or via their website at www.navajonationzoo.org

One Ranch at a Time

WINDOW ROCK, AZ. – Tightening up loose ends.

That's what the Navajo Nation Ranch and Eastern Land Management (RELM), formally the Navajo Nation Tribal Ranch Program, which is under the Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture is doing. The Resources and Development Committee approved new plans of operation, renamed programs and added new programs within the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources in October 2016.

Here in the heart of the great Southwest, there is a strong tie to the land and a love for animals. And cattle is a constant and mainstay for a handful of Navajo ranchers.

With a slim crew, Principal Extension Agent Ivan Becenti has been a steady hand to hold the fort down.

On the one hand, there is a continuing drought situation that is especially prevalent at certain ranches while there are many windmills that are

in need of constant repair and maintenance to ranchers who are concerned about wandering elk herds that eat the forage or the increasing unrestrained actions of cattle rustlers.

Just under a dozen 10-year new leases will be recommended for approval in the beginning of year 2017. The Navajo Nation has 23 ranch units that are located in Arizona and New Mexico. Some of the criteria as required by Navajo Nation law for leasing a ranch with the Navajo Nation include: Must be an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation, must be 21 years old, and individuals who have a grazing permit with more than 75 sheep units are not eligible, to name but a few. Lessees must also pay an annual grazing fee based on carrying capacity and bid amounts.

RELM staff are currently working on a Corrective Action Plan. One critical and expensive initiative is to address the accountability of windmill



Hats off to all the hard-working Navajo ranchers.

repairs and maintenance.

Accordingly, the RELM is working more collaboratively with the Navajo Nation Water Resources, Technical, Construction and Operation Branch (TCOB) to process work orders while TCOB staff provide the windmill maintenance. It is part of an integrated approach to work more closely with other

Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources programs, which will help improve services for the Navajo communities.

Becenti said, "We are working diligently to work with various programs within the Division as well as other resources from the private and public sector to provide assistance to the Navajo ranchers, which in turn will

benefit the Navajo Nation. We are also developing new information technology software to help improve communication between the Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture and ranchers."

One of the goals of RELM is also to incorporate solar windmills as an added pumping source for the ranches – it will involve five ranches in an initial pilot project.

"We are very excited about bringing solar to the remote areas of the ranches," Becenti stated. "By using solar, we hope to have a profound and positive impact for our ranchers. We look forward to making this endeavor a reality. We want our ranchers to have a consistent source of water while keeping ranching costs down."

Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture Director Leo Watchman, Jr., stated, "We are doing everything that we can to assist Navajo ranchers. They are a unique breed of

people who have a special bond with the land and livestock. Raising livestock has always been a way of life for the Navajo people, which must be preserved. We want to instill good ranching practices so they will become successful entrepreneurs. Navajo ranchers are our source of pride and are helping to enrich the Navajo Nation economy. We will continue to support them because if they succeed we all succeed."

To add a feather to the program, prime beef from Navajo cattle is now available at select grocery stores on the Navajo Nation through the Native American Beef Program, which is part of Labatt Food Service.

Watchman noted, "This is a testament to the Ranch and Eastern Land Management staff who are working ardently behind the scenes to ensure that our bull herds provide high quality genetics. The Navajo Nation and Labatt Food Service have become great partners."

Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources (DNR) Resource List

DNR ADMINISTRATION

Biddah Becker – Executive Director
PH# (928) 871-6592 & 6593
FX# (928) 871-7040
P.O. Box 9000, Window Rock, Arizona
86515 www.dnr.navajo-nsn.gov

Administrative Support

Career Advancement Training
Department Liaison
Employee Resources
Energy
Foster Partnership
Human Resources
Internal and External Communication
Leadership
Legal Advice
Management
Natural Resource Stewardship
Policy Development and Implementation
Reporting – Budget and Program

AGRICULTURE

Leo C. Watchman, Jr. – Department Director
PH# (928) 871-6605
FX# (928) 871-6679
P.O. Box 4889, Window Rock,
Arizona 86515
www.agriculture.navajo-nsn.gov

Livestock or Equine Round-Up
Demonstration Garden
Garden Education and Training
Technical Support (Grazing, Farm and Land Board)

Range and Farmland Management
(928) 871-6604
Renelda Begay, Program
and Project Specialist
Grazing Disputes
Grazing Policies
Livestock Tallies
Maintain records
Maintain Agency Profiles
Technical and Administrative Services
Livestock Brand Management
(928) 871-6605
Randall Jim, Ranger Sergeant
Brand Management (Brand Registration)
Deputy Livestock Inspector (Manage
Training, Commissioning and Recruiting)
Education and Training (Rules & Regulations)
State and Federal Regulation Coordination
Tribal Regulation Enforcement
Livestock and Feral Animal Removal
Livestock Right of Way Issues
Livestock Importation
Livestock Inspection
Livestock Investigation Assistance
Livestock Management System
Deputy Livestock Inspectors
Livestock Inspection Services
Seize and Hold Livestock
Ranch and Eastern Land Management
(928) 871-6635 & 6605
Ivan Becenti – Principal Extension Agent
Ensure Compliance
Grazing Use Fees
Livestock Inventory
Land Use Fees
Manage Eastern Agency Grazing
Maintain Records

Maintain Eastern Agency Profiles
Policies and Procedures
Purchase and Sell Livestock
Supplemental Livestock Feed
Technical and Administrative Services
Generate Revenue
Manage Tribal Ranch Units
Lessee Tribal Fee Lands for Ranching
Grazing Land
Coordinate Hunter Access Fees
Windmill Maintenance
Manage Angus Bull Herd
Veterinary Management (928) 371-5214
Dr. Kelly Upshaw-Bia (505) 371-5214
Regulatory Section – Dr. Scott Bender
(928) 674-2069
Animal Identification System
Animal and Poultry Diseases
Education and Public Information
Foreign and Domestic Disease Surveillance
and Investigation
Forensic Investigation Assistance
Quarantines
Veterinary Clinic Section:
Dr. Kelly Upshaw-Bia (505) 371-5214
Animal Health
Animal Population Management (Spay,
Neuter, Castration, PZP, etc.)
Education and Public Information
Extension Education Seminars
Livestock, Companion Animals and Poultry
Communicable Diseases
Livestock
Preventive Medication and Supplies
Technical Assistance
Vaccination/Immunization / Wellness Clinics
Veterinary Assistance

Tse Bonito Veterinary Clinic
(505) 371-5214
Shiprock Veterinary Clinic
(505) 368-1007
Chinle Veterinary Clinic
(928) 674-2069
Mobile Veterinary Unit
(505) 371-5220
Puppy Adoption Program (505) 371-5221
John Toadlena – Senior Program & Project
Specialist

NAVAJO AML RECLAMATION UMTRA

Madeline Roanhorse – Department Manager
III PH# (928) 871-6982
FX# (928) 871-7190
P.O. Box 1875, Window Rock, Arizona
86515

Shiprock Office (505) 368-1220
Rose Grey – Program Manager II
Tuba City Office (928) 283-3188
Ray Tsingine – Program Manager II
ADMINISTRATION
Coal and Non-Coal Mines – Uranium,
Copper, etc.
Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action
(UMTRA)
Mill Tailings and Groundwater Remediation
Oversight of UMTRA Sites
Review Department of Energy Documents
Public Facility Projects (PFP)
Project Monitoring and Completion
Abandoned Uranium Mines (AUM)
Administrative Services

Resource List

Project development
Technical Support
Public Relations

FISH & WILDLIFE

Gloria Tom – Department Manager
PH# (928) 871-6450
FX# (928) 871-7069
P.O. Box 1480, Window Rock, Arizona 86515 www.nndfw.org
Annual Youth Hunt
Eagle Feather Distribution Program
Fishing and Boating Regulations
Fishing and Small Game Permits
Hunter Education Classes (Firearms, Bow Hunting, Ethics, etc.)
Hunting Permits
Hunting and Trapping Regulations
Watercraft Permits
Animal Control Program
(928) 871-6451
Glenda Davis – Program Manager
Animal Shelters
Rabies Vaccination
Wildlife Management and Research
(928) 871-6595
Jeff Cole – Wildlife Manager
Fish Hatchery
(505) 789-3238
Wildlife Management
Big Game Surveys
Biological Investigation/Scientific Collecting Permits
Recreational Fishing
Native Fish Management
Natural Heritage Program
(928) 871-7062
Sam Diswood – Wildlife Manager
Endangered, Threatened and Sensitive Species (Plants and Animals)
Biological Database System
Biological Evaluation Land-Use Clearance
Homesite Lease Biological Clearance
Project Review
Wildlife Enforcement Program
(928) 871-7066
Creel Surveys
Wildlife Investigation and Violations
Report Wildlife Crimes
Navajo Nation Zoo
PH# (928) 871-6574
David Mikesic – Program Manager
FX# (928) 871-6644
www.navajozoo.org
Live Native Animal Exhibits
Cultural & Biological Information
Golden Eagle Sanctuary
Outdoor Pavilion Rental for Parties
Large Annual Events
Adopt-an-Animal Program

FORESTRY

Alexious Becenti – Department Manager
PH#(928) 729-4007
FX# (928) 729-4225
P.O. Box 230, Fort Defiance, Arizona 86504

Calvin Becenti – Principal Forest Technician
Cooperative Program
(928) 729-4228
Right-of-Way Tree Cutting Permits
General Forest Information
Michael Yazzie – Principal Forest Technician
Forest Services Program
(928) 729-4228
Enforcement
Fire Prevention

Forest Product Permits
Forest Regulations
Report Forest Product Trespass
Frankie Thompson – Program Manager
Research & Development
(928) 729-4007
Forest Inventory and Planning
Pole Marking
Thinning
Woodyard Information
Woodland Management
Amanullah K. Arbab – Senior Forester
Reforestation & Disease Control
(928) 729-4235
Reforestation
Greenhouse Information
Native Plants
Robert W. Billie – Senior Forester
Timber Management Program
(928) 729-4240
Lumber Sales
Timber Sales

Sadie Johnson – System Analyst
Geographical Information System
(928) 729-4232

GENERAL LAND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Elerina Yazzie – Department Manager
P.O. Box 69, St. Michaels, Arizona 86511
PH# (928) 871-6447
Marklyn Chee – Environmental Specialist
Howard Draper – Program and Project Specialist
Land Withdrawal Applications (Industrial Purposes & Community Development)
Non-Mineral Leases (Hospitals, Schools, Telecommunications, etc.)
Permits (Mission sites, Religious Sites and Traditional Ceremonial)
Rights-of-Way (Services Line Agreements)

NAVAJO NATION HERITAGE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Linda Laughing – Acting Department Manager
PH# (928) 871-6540, 6541 & 7198
P.O. Box 4950, Window Rock, Arizona 86515 Fax# (928) 871-7886
Tamara Billie, Acting Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO)
Navajo Nation Cultural Resources Protection Act (NNCRPA) - CMY-19-88, Title 19.
Government to Government Consultation
Right-of-Way Resources
National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA)
American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA)
Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA)
36CFR 800 - Protection of Historic Properties
43CFR 60.4 - Criteria for Evaluation
Community Education and Outreach

Cultural Resources Compliance Section (CRCS) PH# (928) 871-7198
Tamara Billie – Senior Archaeologist

Cultural and Natural Resources Laws

Jischaa’ Policy (Navajo Nation Policy)
Traditional Cultural Properties Policy
Heritage and Historic Preservation Permit
Section 106 Consultation
Archaeological/Cultural and Resources Compliance/Clearance/Permits
Cultural Resources Impact
Professional and Technical Expertise
National Register of Historic Places
Ensure Archaeological Deposits are Undisturbed
Archaeological Legislation, Trends and Development
Mitigation Measures for Sites
Education Seminars
Database, Records, and Maps

Traditional Culture Program – Window Rock, AZ
Navajo Cultural Specialists: Melinda Arviso-Ciocco, Timothy Begay and Kelley Francis
PH# (928) 871-7152
Federal Agency Consultation
ARPA, NAGPRA, and the NNCRPA Laws Consultation
Navajo Practitioners and the Hataalii Advisory Council Consultation
Cultural Resources Management
Traditional Cultural Properties Consultation
Repatriation of Cultural Patrimonial Artifacts
Final Deposition of “Jish”
Traditional Cultural Property Custodian

Heritage Management Services
Elaine Cleveland-Mason, Program Manager (Archaeologist) – Shiprock, NM (Diné College) PH# (505) 368-1214, 1507
Northern Arizona University Bilby Research
PH# (928) 523-9151
Archaeological Field Services for P.L. 93-638 Contracts
BIA Non-Roads Projects under 93-638 Programs
Historical/Architectural Significance of Historic Buildings
BIA Field Service Projects
Cultural Resource Management Reports

Glen Canyon Adaptive Management Program – Window Rock AZ
(928) 871-7153
Melinda Arviso-Ciocco, Navajo Cultural Specialist
Glen Canyon Archaeological Sites
Consult with Federal Agencies on NHPA Bulletin 38 (FCC, BLM, Forest Service, NPS and other federal agencies)

LAND DEPARTMENT

Mike Halona, Department Manager III
PH# (928) 871-6440
P.O. Box 2249, Window Rock, Arizona 86515
FX# (928) 871-7040
www.dinehbikeyah.org

Appraisal and Title Records (Land Acquisition Act) (928) 871-7047 & 7840
Title Data System
(928) 871-6401
Navajo Nation System
(928) 871-6910
Geographic Information System Section
(928) 871-6440
Everytt Begay – GIS Supervisor
Home Site Lease Section

(928) 871-6401
Cadastral Survey Program
(928) 871-6401
Daniel Bryan – Principal Engineering Technician
Trust and Fee Lands (Amendments & Assignments, Modification, and Conveyance Partial Assignments)

FIELD OFFICES

Chinle
(928) 674-2056
Caroline Dale – Senior Home Site Agent
Crownpoint
(505) 786-2376
Ft. Defiance/Window Rock
(928) 871-7044
Ray Joe – Senior Home Site Agent
Shiprock
(505) 368-1120
Bob Chester – Principal Engineering Technician
Tuba City
(928) 283-3194
Jarrod M. Yazzie – Principal Engineering Technician

MINERALS

Akhtar Zaman – Department Manager
PH# (928) 871-6588 & 6587
FX# (928) 871-7095
P.O. Box 1910, Window Rock, Arizona 86515
Energy-Related Rights-of-Way (ROW) Agreements
Technical Services on Mineral-Related and ROW Issues
Mining and Reclamation Plans
Geologic Study Permits
Sand and Gravel Permits
Electrical Distribution ROW
Pipeline ROW
Temporary Construction Easement Applications
Minerals Audit Program
PH# (928) 871-6057
Rowena Cheromiah – Minerals Royalty/Audit Manager
Oil and Gas Royalty Compliance
Solid Minerals Royalty Compliance
Mine Safety Program
PH# (928) 871-7097
Edison Begay, Jr. – Mine Safety Officer
Mine Workers Training
Mine Health and Safety Information
Coal Mine and Sand & Gravel Pit Inspections
Theft of Sand and Gravel Resources
Removing of Petrified Wood
Oil and Gas Program
PH# (928) 871-7285
Steven L. Prince – Principal Petroleum Engineer
Drilling Permit Applications
Oil and Gas Production Accountability Inspections
Oil & Gas Lease Assignments
Sundry Notices
Surface Mining Program
PH# (928) 871-6464
Harrison Billy – Principal Mining Engineer
Coal Mining Reclamation Inspections
Public Participation Meetings

Resource List

NAVAJO NATION MUSEUM

Manuelito Wheeler – Museum Director
PH# (928) 871-7941
FX# (928) 871-7942
P.O. Box 1840, Window Rock, AZ. 86515
www.navajonationmuseum.org
Ben Manuelito – Gift Shop Manager
Clarenda Begay – Curator
Cultural Information
Special Event Planning
Education Programs/Workshops (Scheduled on various dates throughout the year)
Working the Wool
Star Lab
Moccasin Making
Sewing Class: Traditional Clothing
Sweat Lodge for Men
Photography Lessons
Canvas Art Lessons
Summer Youth Cultural Activities (June-August)
Photography Archives (By Appointment)
Collections Preservation
Meeting and Event Room Rentals
Cultural Exhibits
Exhibit Tours (Scheduled/guided tours available)
Gift Shop
Authentic Navajo Made Jewelry and Rugs
Books and Literature by or about Navajos
Navajo-Inspired Products and Crafts
Major Annual Events
Antique Rez Show (usually around mid March)
Nizhoni Arts Market (during the Navajo Nation Fair in early September)
Keshmish Arts Market (usually in the second week of December)
Keshjee-Navajo Shoe Game Tournament (New Year’s Eve)

PARKS & RECREATION

Martin L. Begaye – Department Manager
PH# (928) 871-6647
FX# (928) 871-6637
P.O. Box 2520, Window Rock, AZ. 86515
www.navajonationparks.org

Strategic Planning
Policy Development
Inter-governmental Relations
Air Tour Management
Navajo Parks Race Series
Filming Permits
Special Use Permits
Human Resources
Marketing and Sponsorships
Contracts
Special Events

Canyon de Chelly Office
PH# (928) 674-2106
Dewayne Johnson – Park Manager
Tour Operator Permits
Back-Country Permits
Camping Permits
Special Use Permits
Camp Asaayi Facility Rentals
National Park Service

Four Corners Monument
PH# (928) 206-2540
Karen Yazzie – Park Manager
Back country Permits – San Juan River
Camping Permits
Arts and Crafts Vending

Lake Powell Navajo Tribal Park
PH# (928) 698-2808
Effie Yazzie – Park Manager
Tour Operator Permits
Special Use Permits
Hiking and Camping Permits
Filming Permits
National Park Service

Little Colorado River Navajo Tribal Park
PH# (928) 679-2303
Helen Webster – Park Manager
Back country Permits
Hiking and Camping Permits
Special Use Permits
Filming Permits
National Park Service

Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park
PH# (435) 727-5870
Adeline Salt – Park Manager
Tour Operator Permits
Arts and Crafts vending
Back country Permits
Hiking and Camping Permits
Special Use Permits

Navajo Nation Welcome Center (Monument Valley)
Rose Gillis – Center Supervisor (Acting)
PH# (435) 727-5871
Arts and Crafts vending
Visitor Information

Navajo Nation Fair Office
PH# (928) 871-6478
Navajo Nation Fair
Fourth of July Celebration
Marketing & Sponsorships

Fairgrounds Facility Rentals
PH# (928) 871-6478
Nakai Hall
Rodeo grounds
Gorman Hall
Sports Center
Special Events

RESOURCE ENFORCEMENT

Leonard Butler – Department Manager
PH# (928) 871-7336
FX# (928) 871-7899
P.O. Box 9000, Window Rock, Arizona 86515
Ranger Dispatch
PH# (505) 371-5200 & 5201
Livestock Theft
Livestock in a Right-of-Way
Illegal Livestock Roundups
Illegal Fencing or Fence Cutting
Livestock Cruelty/Abuse
Dead/Dying Livestock or Diseases
Livestock or Feral Horses
Archaeology & Historic Preservation Related
Ruin and Grave Sites
Selling Artifacts
Pot-Hunting or Gathering Sherds
Discovery of Human Remains
Fish & Game Related
Hunting or Fishing without a Permit
Killings of Protected Wildlife Species
Selling Protected Wildlife Species
Illegal Trapping
Forestry & Timber Related
Illegal Wood Harvesting
Illegal Dumping

Forest & Wildland Fires
Parks & Recreation Related
Non-Navajos Trespassing
Non-Navajos Rock-Climbing
Non-Navajos Hang-Gliding or Base-Jumping
Alcohol or Drug-Use, Possession or Selling, Etc.

Department of Water Resources

Ray Benally, Department Director
PH# (928) 729-4003
P.O. Box 678, Window Rock, Arizona 86504
FX# (928) 729-4029

Safety of Dams Program
(928) 729-4257
Paul Long, Jr. – Program Manager
Administer and Manage 638 Dam Safety Contract
Repair, maintain, monitor, operate and upgrade High or Significant Hazardous Dams
Early Warning System
Emergency Action Plan

Technical, Construction and Operations Branch (TCOB) (928) 729-4031
Najam H. Tariq – Program Manager
Plan, design, construct, rehabilitate, repair and maintain livestock, domestic and irrigation water systems.
TCOB - Engineering Section
(928) 729-4046/4499
Earthen Dams, Waterlines, Storage tanks,

Natural Springs, Solar systems, Windmills
TCOB - Drilling Section
(928) 729-4050/4041
Drilling and Rehabilitation Livestock Water Wells
TCOB - Water Code Section
(928) 729-4132
Water Use and Well Drilling Permits
Well Abandonment Plans
Enforce Related Compliance Activities
TCOB - Operation and Maintenance Field Offices
Provide day to day repair and maintenance of livestock windmills, storage tanks, waterlines, livestock troughs, natural springs, dug wells, hand pumps and solar systems.

Canoncito
(505) 908-2740
Chinle
(928) 674-2210
Crownpoint
(505) 786-2396
Dilkon
(928) 657-8094
Fort Defiance
(928) 729-4053
Ganado
(928) 755-5971
Leupp
(928) 686-3289
Pueblo Pintado
(505) 655-5402
Shiprock
(505) 368-1146
Tees Nos Pos
(928) 656-3674
Tuba City
(928) 283-3170
Vanderwagon
(505) 778-5337
TCOB - Irrigation Field Offices
Shiprock Irrigation Office
(505) 368-1062

Repair and maintenance of Shiprock Irrigation Water System.
TCOB Many Farms Irrigation Field Office
(928) 781-3601
Repair and maintenance of irrigation water system - Many Farms, Ganado, Red Lake and Round Rock Dams.
TCOB - San Juan River Irrigation Rehabilitation Project Office
Upgrade San Juan Irrigation water projects.
(505) 368- 1016

Water Management Branch
(928) 729-4004
Water Rights
Water Development Strategy
Water Monitoring & Inventorying
Flood Plain Delineation and Management
Chapter Water Plans
Drought Planning and Mitigation
Watershed Restoration
Water/Wastewater Project Funding
Acquisition

2017 Calendar of Events

April
* Dinetah Guided Cultural Tour & Outdoor Camping, Dinetah, N.M., April 13-15 (First 10 registered) Contact Clarenda Begay at (928) 871-7941, NN Museum Facebook
May
* Working the Wood Weavers Hands-On Meeting, NN Museum Conference Room #1, May 1, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., NN Museum Facebook
* Shiprock Marathon, Half, Relay & Kids Marathon, May 12-13, www.navajoyes.org or (928) 429-0345
* Hunter Education class, Monument Valley Welcome Center, April 7-9. (928) 871-6450.

May 17, 5 p.m to 7 p.m., NN Museum Facebook or (928) 871-7941
* Navajo Nation Museum Artist Maker’s Show (pending dates) Navajo Nation Museum Facebook or (928) 871-7941

June
* Monument Valley Community Celebration, June 30, (435) 727-5870 or www.navajonationparks.org
* Zoo Fest, Navajo Nation Z00 (928) 871-6574 or www.navajozoo.org

Please go to the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources website to view additional 2017 Calendar of events at www.dnr.navajo-nsn.gov and like us on our Facebook page as well.